

How reading is taught and
how to make your child a
better reader

Tuesday 27 January 2015

Why is reading important?

- Creating a love of reading in children is potentially one of the most powerful ways of improving academic standards in school.
- There are few better ways to improve pupils chances in school, or beyond in the wider world, than to enable them to become truly independent readers.

Understanding texts

- Being able to read does not mean you understand what you read.
- Your child might sound like a good reader but may not necessarily understand what the text means.
- The best way to develop understanding is to talk about texts.
- The next slide is easy to read – does anyone understand what it means?

Extract from a computer manual

According to the previous ATAVIDE hard drive transfer protocol, the signalling way to send data was in synchronous strobe mode by using the rising edge of the strobe signal. The faster strobe rate increases EMI, which cannot be eliminated by the standard 40-pin cable used by ATA and ultra ATA.

Skills for reading

Phonics and Word Recognition

The ability to recognise words presented in and out of context.

The ability to blend letter sounds (phonemes) together to read words.

Understanding

The ability to understand the meaning of the words and sentences in a text.

The ability to understand the ideas, information and themes in a text.

If a child understands what they hear, they will understand the same information when they read.

How reading is practised in school

- Phonics;
- Shared reading;
- Guided reading;
- Independent reading;
- Being listened to by parents in school;
- Focused reading activities, such as using dictionaries to look up new words;
- Reading across the curriculum; and
- Class novels and stories

How reading is taught in Key Stage 2

- . Guided reading sessions - children read in groups with the teacher once every week, discussing books and being taught how use skills of inference and deduction to find meaning in a range of texts;
- . Targeted work - children working on understanding texts in "inference groups";
- . Daily literacy lessons - children are taught how to use drama and other devices, such as Role on the Wall (also known as "gingerbreading", to explore characters' actions and motives; and
- . Through other lessons across the curriculum - for example, when reading a non-fiction history text, how to use a glossary to understand what a new word means in a text.

Hearing your child read

- Choose a quiet time and give your child your full attention;
- Give support if required using the strategies explained earlier;
- Explain the meaning of new words;
- Talk about the text using open questions.

Reading to your children

- Introduce your children to different types of books; classic fiction, chapter books, short stories, joke books, poetry, non-fiction.
- Read them the book that was your favourite when you were a child.
- Read slowly, with expression. Try to use different and funny voices for characters.
- Follow the words and read the story using the pictures.
- Talk about what is happening and what might happen next. Leave the story on a cliffhanger!

Accelerated Reader



<http://www.renlearn.co.uk/accelerated-reader/>

What is Accelerated Reader (AR)?

- * AR is a computer program that helps teachers manage and monitor children's independent reading practice.
- * Your child picks a book at his/her own level and reads it at his/her own pace.
- * When finished, your child takes a short quiz on the computer. (Passing the quiz is an indication that your child understood what was read.)
- * AR gives both children and teachers feedback based on the quiz results, which the teacher then uses to help your child set targets and direct ongoing reading practice.

What is Accelerated Reader (AR)?

- * Children using AR choose their own books to read, rather than having one assigned to them. This makes reading a much more enjoyable experience as they can choose books that are interesting to them.
- * Teachers and librarians help your child choose books at an appropriate reading level that are challenging without being frustrating, ensuring that your child can pass the quiz and experience success.

Quizzing using AR

<http://www.renlearn.co.uk/accelerated-reader/>

Using AR reader at home



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- . Pupil targets
- . Pupil reading awards
- . More books in the library

Questions...